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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 05/629,707 | 07/31/2000 | Zhigang Ma | Ma-12-7-5 | 5486 |

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EXAMINER

TRAN, THIEN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2665

DATE MAILED: 03/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/629,707

Applicant(s)

MA ET AL.

Examiner

Thien D Tran

Art Unit

2665

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07/31/2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being participated by Weng et al (U.S Patent No.5,659,698).

Regarding claim 1, Weng discloses that in a multiprocessor digital signal processing system, the combination comprising a single coder/decoder 56 having a digital/analog conversion channel time division multiplexed among, and an analog/digital conversion channel concurrently coupled to, the multiple processors thereof. See figure 3, col.11 lines 10-13, and col.31 lines 49-60.

Regarding claims 2, 7, Weng discloses means for individually selecting input digital signals and analog signals for digital/analog conversion and analog/digital conversion, respectively, and assigning which of the multiple processors in the system couples output to the digital/analog conversion channel. See figure 3, and col.11 lines 10-13.

Regarding claims 3, 5, 6, Weng discloses a digital signal processing system comprising:

a single coder/decoder 56 (figure 3) having digital and analog signal inputs, and digital/analog and analog/digital conversion channels;

a first source of analog input signals 28 coupled to said analog signal input of said coder/decoder;

a second source of digital input signals 112;

a first plurality of signal processors coupled between said source of digital input signals and said digital signal input of said coder/decoder (figure 5); and

means time division multiplexing said digital/analog conversion channel of said coder/decoder (figure 17, col.26 lines 5-25);

whereby digital-to-analog converted signals are time division multiplexed at said analog output of said coder/decoder, and analog-to-digital converted signals are concurrently accessible at such digital output of said coder/decoder. See figure 3

Regarding claim 4, Weng discloses the digital signal processing system including a second plurality of signal processors coupled to said digital output of said coder/decoder for operating on said analog-to-digital converted signals. See col.8 lines 45-65.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Art Unit: 2665

-Asghar et al (US Patent No. 5,790,817 B1) discloses configurable digital wireless and wired communications system architecture for implementing baseband functionality.


-Malvar (US Patent No. 6,256,608 B1) discloses system and method for entropy encoding quantized transform coefficients of a signal.

-Voois et al (US Patent No. 6,124,882) discloses video communication apparatus and method therefor.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Thien Tran whose telephone number is (703) 308-4388. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (703) 308-6602. Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Thien Tran



**ALPUS H. HSU
PRIMARY EXAMINER**